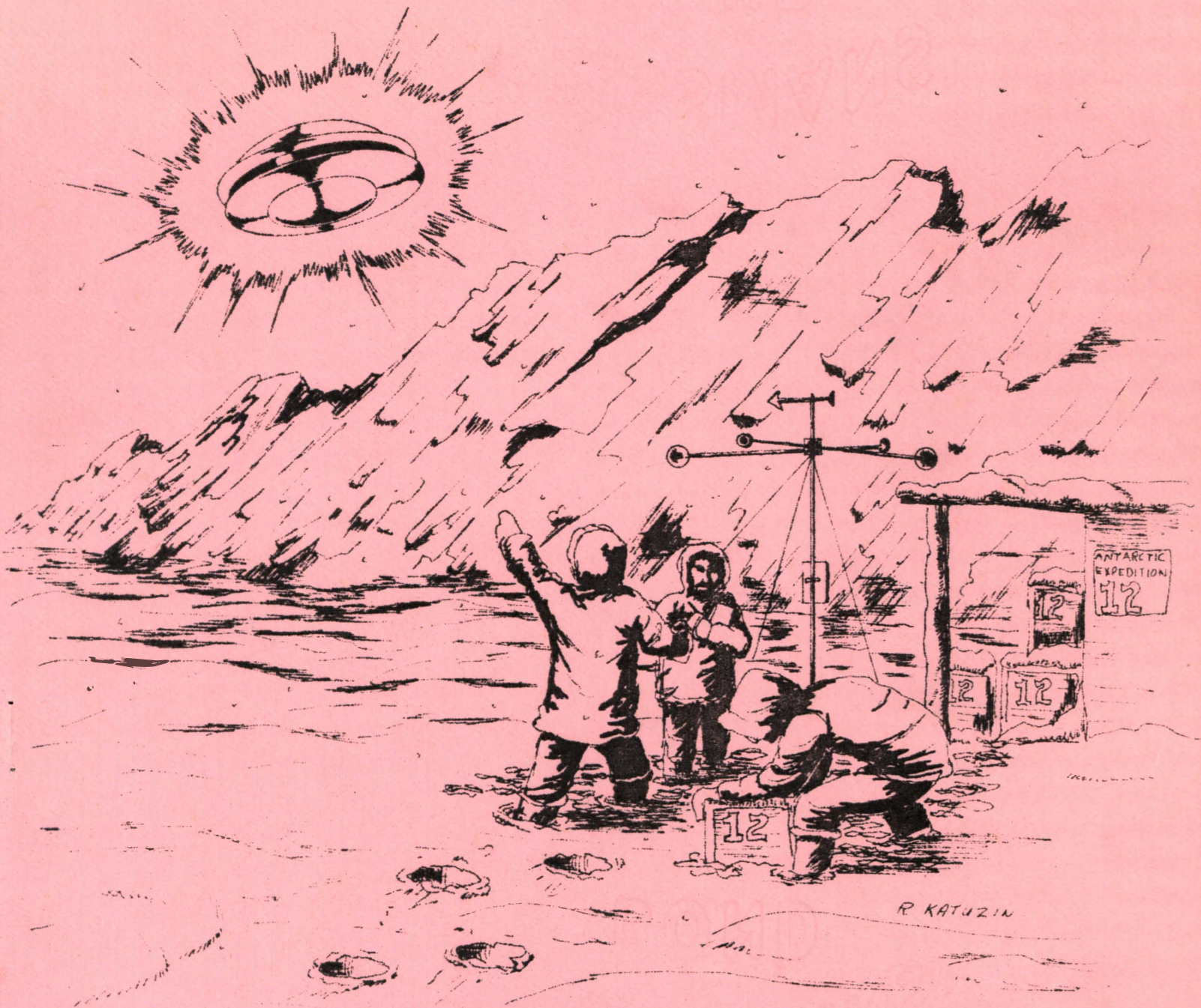


AERIAL PHENOMENA HOT WIRE



THE AERIAL PHENOMENA HOT-WIRE
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An Editorial

On the whole, we feel that editorials in UFO publications are completely unnecessary, both in words and space, so we will try to avoid them as much as possible...in the future, however, it somehow doesn't seem fitting to put out the first issue of a publication without saying a few words on the occasion.

More Dissemination Needed

There is a big job associated with the UFO movement. Our job as a movement is primarily one of mass public education to correct man's folly through ignorance. In order to more effectively accomplish this task of mass public education greater respect and consideration from the general public must be created, not necessarily in obtaining additional evidence of their existence. The fact of their existence is already overwhelmingly convincing to those who have had enough interest to examine existing evidence. Our immediate task is to more effectively disseminate this existing information.

Problems

As an effective instrument of public influence, the UFO movement today is far from

what it should, could, and might be, lest those fail in the purpose for which they have come. The problem of educating a mass ignorant public has failed over the years because of various reasons. The first and most important reason is disunity. A disunited movement can only be spread further apart from its goals by the opposition - in this case the USAF and other governmental agencies. Let us recognize that while different groups and organizations may be investigating or dealing with different aspects, phases, or approaches to the subject, ALL are needed, each one having an important and valuable part to play, and a need or purpose to fulfill.

Resolutions

Let us agree to disagree in some areas and still cooperate on our areas of agreement. Not one group has all the truth necessary to make a relatively non-destructive transition into the new age. Let us resolve to be more tolerant, and to eliminate the destructive criticism of those persons whose information, experience, knowledge, or viewpoint differs from our own. Let time resolve what may now appear to some to be areas of disagreement rather than differing parts of the whole picture of creation. Rather than concentrate on the criticism of others who may be working in a different way for a common goal, let us reserve our time, energy, and resources for fighting the common enemy of mass public ignorance, and work together in this effort to enlighten and to raise up our fellowman to a higher level of existence.

Teamwork Counts

Let's oppose the opposition and NOT Each other. Because of the criticism, ridicule, and quibbling among ourselves over minor matters today, the opposite forces have succeeded in rendering the UFO movement ineffective. If we take a stand, we may be surprised to see how many will stand with us and how much can be accomplished as a result. In numbers there is strength, and victory. United we can win.

Let's get together now to ACT on the really important issues. The task is big, and the bigger the job, the more teamwork is required to do it. We appeal to you to join with us to command better respect and

greater public influence from those who may only be influenced by large numbers of people associated together for a common purpose. The UFO movement possesses the qualities of the many minds, hands, and talents to achieve success if we would just work steadfastly and unceasingly to bring it.

Some Answers

At this very moment we have the opportunity to crush the opposition if YOU will do just three things. First, write your Senators c/o the Senate Office Building, Washington 25, D.C. Second, write to WABC TV at 7 W. 66th St., New York 23, N.Y. urging them to reconsider sponsoring UFO programs, and third, to stimulate an interest in your local news media and even your own next door neighbors.

New Support

Newspapers throughout the nation have publicized the present baffling UFO flap that even the common-day "John" on the street has started to think about UFOs. Most of the majority of news releases have been highly favorable to our position and some have even condemned official USAF explanations for recent sightings! We urge you to carry out the three outlined steps NOW to follow up the precious lead we now have with which to do so much with to help the UFO movement. If you need information to write for your local news media and Senators just send a stamped self-addressed #10 envelope for our documentary booklet, "The Reality of the UFOs." When our words are matched by deeds, when our talk is matched with action, when our ideals are backed up by words, then we shall start to materialize that which was promised, and then to experience the many wonderful things long hoped for. If you write to your Senators, be patient, don't expect miracles. The only one who can lift the lid of censorship is YOU. What say you reader?

MARS KEY: "MANNA FROM HEAVEN"

Sunnyvale, Calif., Aug. 11, (UPI) - A large box at NASA's Ames Research Center may hold the key to life on Mars. Life scientists have isolated what they believe are the components of Mars' atmosphere and have watched compounds develop - including what

one scientist calls "manna from heaven." "If you take the vaguely defined Mars atmosphere and radiate it ultra-violently you find that many organisms develop," said Dr. Harold P. Klein, assistant director of Ames' life sciences division. The atmosphere the scientists are using is made up of carbon dioxide, nitrogen, and a small trace of water. To it is added acetaldehyde, which is a common compound formed from carbon dioxide and water and which the scientists believe will be found in the Mars atmosphere. "The organisms include common sugars such as glucose and other food material," Klein said. "If such a process goes on - I'd call it 'manna from heaven' - then you don't need organisms which photosynthesize, because food is created physically. On earth all food comes directly or indirectly from the photosynthesis process. If this is true of conditions on Mars, then it is possible that there are living organisms below the surface which get their food as the 'manna' works its way underground. Since ultra-violet light is damaging to living things, this experiment has already been a help to us, because we now know any possible living things on Mars don't have to be in the sunlight." (Newark, N.J. News, 8/11)

"FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE" 1908 MOTHER SHIP ONLY A COMET

Moscow, Aug. 4, (UPI) - A Soviet scientist has attacked a theory that the famous Siberian explosion of 1908 was caused by anti-matter. The explosion, possibly the mightiest blast ever seen by man, was caused instead by a comet exploding 3-4 miles above the earth's surface. The scientist, K.P. Florensky, denied the basis of the American theory that the exotic substance anti-matter can exist in a mass larger than individual particles. What has been called the "Tunguska meteor" blazed thru the Siberian sky and exploded an estimated 3.75 miles above Podkammennaya Tunguska, a desolate forest area in Siberia. The "meteor" was seen 400 miles away and the thunder of its explosion was heard 500 miles away. Trees in a 20 mile radius were felled, seismographs around the globe picked up the explosion, and the afterglow brightened Europe's night sky for several nights. Scientists at Columbia University say the explosion was caused by anti-matter. What do YOU believe?

MARINER IV TRIGGERS NEW U.F.O. FLAP

Well...even at this writing in mid-August the reports are still coming in from all over the world, and we are thankful for the new support from the news media throughout the nation. We don't have all the reports as yet, but here are a few of the many reported.....

UFO JOINS HOLIDAY AERIAL DISPLAY - - -

Greenhills, Ohio, July 4 - Mrs. Catherine Doherty was observing the fireworks when she saw a white light almost overhead at 9:30 pm join the holiday display. She said it was the size of the end of a cigarette, "very far away," traveling W to E. She emphasized that it was not bright like a star, and that there appeared to be a sort of mist around it. She said she thought it was the fireworks beginning, then realized it couldn't have been a plane.

POLICE REPORT UFO

Sunnvale, Calif., July 8 - Lt. John Haag and another officer of the local police force observed a blinking red light for about 10 minutes. They said the object was much brighter than Venus and climbed straight up, turned north and moved away.

"IT WAS VERY FRIGHTENING"

London, England, July 7 - A strange "fiery object" was reportedly seen in the sky over Wiltshire County, about 100 miles west of London. At least five people in the town of Warminster have reported mystery objects in the sky over the last six months. Mrs. Dora Horlock said "it was very frightening. It sharpened into focus high up and looked just like two red-hot poker - one on top of the other." (Detroit News, 7/9/65.)

STOP THE CLOCKS!

Azores, July 11- Witnesses at the Santa Maria airport said electromagnetic clocks there stopped for 10 minutes when a UFO passed overhead. In Garfield, N.J., a witness said he saw "a huge glowing ball" light up the ground for 5 seconds. "After that it suddenly shot out of sight."

All correspondence addressed to the Dir. after Sept. 6th should be sent to Mitchell College, Statesville, N.C. 28677.

EM EFFECTS AGAIN

Lisbon, Portugal, July 12 - Of two recent sightings, the first appeared in Montosinhos near the northern city of Oporto, where Manuel Fernandes and his wife at first saw what "looked like a flattened balloon, but then as we watched, it looked like a plate turned over. The thing was very luminous and had orange coloring, and was nearly red at times, and at times green rays shot out from a side. The thing stopped at a rather high altitude, near the coast, for about three minutes. Then with an incredible velocity, it sped towards the north." Mr. Fernandes said his radio was playing while the UFO circled over a forest near the house, but that heavy interference interrupted the music. A similar type of interference stopped the electromagnetic clocks of the Villa do Porto weather bureau in the Portuguese Azores Archipelago. A spokesman reported the UFO to be a "cylindrical white object," circling around in the sky. He said it was moving slowly northeast at an altitude of 24-30,000 feet. He stated it had nothing to do with the current geophysical observations being made by Portuguese, French and British vessels in the Azores Islands.

(Cincinnati, Ohio Enquirer, July 12.)

WHAT A BALLOON!

Columbus, Ohio, July 13 - Thousands of persons in Ohio, Pa., W.Va., and Md. watched in bewilderment last night as a UFO - Or UFOs - hovered high in the sky and moved slowly to the west. The FAA in at least two states, numerous Weather Bureau offices, the Civil Air Patrol and most persons who saw the object said it was a weather balloon. But none were able to say where it originated. The object was first reported at Harrisburg, Pa. Sightings were reported within a short time at Cumberland, Md., York, Lancaster, and Johnstown, Pa.; Morgantown and Wheeling, W.Va. It was spotted in the Columbus area about 6 pm and

remained over the area until 6pm. Sightings for the same period were reported in Athens Newark and Chillicothe. After dark, Dayton Springfield, & Hamilton residents spotted the UFO. Reports of a UFO moving south also came from the Defiance area in Northwest Ohio. The only dissenting word that it was a balloon came from Friend Kierstead, orbit analyst for the Akron-Canton satellite tracking group, which follows satellites for the government. Kierstead said it was the planet Venus which has moved within close range of the sun in recent days, making it visible. There was a possibility the object visible in the Akron area and that visible further to the south were not the same, however. Lockbourne AFB, near Columbus, said the object appeared to be at 50,000 feet. It said its weather balloons are 6 feet in diameter and would NOT be seen at such a height. The FAA flight service station at Morgantown, W.Va., where the UFO was sighted early in the evening, said it was "hundreds of feet" in diameter and was at an altitude of 90,000 feet. Earlier reports said the "balloon" appeared to be made of a plastic material and was round. But as the night progressed, reports said it was orange and generally elongated in shape. Wright Patterson AFB said it had no idea what the object was, but that it was tracking it. (Cinn. Enquirer, 7/13.)

UFO BLOCKS MARINER'S SIGNALS

Canberra, Australia, July 15 - A mysterious glowing object - hovering near Canberra airport while the Mariner probe was taking pictures of Mars - baffled air traffic control officers. Six members of the traffic control tower crew said it hung suspended at about 5,000 feet for 40 minutes. When the sun glinted off it, it became clearly visible, they said. It disappeared when an Air Force plane was sent up to identify it. Experts are now wondering if it was coincidence that the UFO was sighted shortly before Tidnibilla tracking station was scheduled to pick up Mariner's signals. The station had unusual difficulty in locking on to Mariner's signals at the time. The sighting also came as Goldstone tracking station received irregularities in messages while Mariner was photographing Mars.

(Lynchburg, Va. News, 7/16 and the Daily Enterprise, Riverside, Calif. 7/16.)

MOTHER CRAFT SIGHTED

East Lansing, Michigan, August 2 - Mr. Jim McCartney of the Buffalo, N.Y. Evening News reported observing a cigar-shaped UFO while on vacation. "Four or five of us were standing out in the back yard, around dusk, and this thing goes past up in the sky. It was sort of shaped like a big dirigible - like a bloated cigar. It made absolutely no noise whatsoever. All of us saw and watched it. It gave you a really queer feeling." A 14-year-old boy exclaimed, "Hey, there's a flying saucer. I know, because it's just like the one I saw yesterday." (!)
(Buffalo, N.Y. Evening News, 8/7.)

WHY DID FIGHTER JETS BUZZ AREA? CHASING UFOS? WHO KNOWS?

Gary, Indiana, August 3 - Why did a squadron of jet fighter planes swoop over the Gary area in low altitude formation? USAF spokesmen say they don't know. The FAA says it doesn't know either. Officials at Glenview, Ill., Naval Air Base report they had no planes in the air at that time. The authorities were queried after residents telephoned The Post-Tribune to find out why the jets were swooping across Northern Indiana in formation. The USAF Public Relations officer in Chicago checked out bases in Indiana, Ill., and seven other states. Spokesmen said none reported having any ships making formation flights in this area Tuesday. Officials declined to comment on the possibility that the fighter planes might have been looking for mysterious flying objects reportedly being sighted across the country at this time. A newsman in Chicago reported he observed two bright oval shapes travel in a circular course for more than an hour over the Hyde Park area before they faded away in a southeasterly direction. A photographer for the Junction City, Kansas, Union reported he took a picture which showed eight black dots in the sky.
(Gary, Indiana Post Tribune, 8/4.)

JETS CHASE UFOS OVER LAKE SUPERIOR - - -

Houghton, Michigan, August 7 - From the teletype room of the Buffalo, N.Y. Evening News comes a report that three USAF radar stations had picked up blips from 7 UFOs high-tailing it at 9,000 miles an hour, in

V-formation, out over Lake Superior. Seven other objects were spotted over nearby Duluth, Minn., but when USAF jets gave chase the UFOs easily whisked away. Another wire came over from Michigan, quoting one of the USAF radar station commander's as saying that as far as he knew, none of his personnel had sighted any UFOs, no matter what any wire service story said. Mr. Charles Nicodemus of the teletype room then phoned the Pentagon for their story...Air Defense Command denied that it had any planes in the air anywhere chasing any formation of UFOs. (Buffalo Evening News, 8/7).

(The following reports were released from NICAP, Washington, D.C. thru a clipping from the Newark NJ Evening News in early August.)

July 19, Mass. - Five persons reported a UFO with four arms in the sky for 45 minutes. Boston area residents reported seeing a silvery object at a low altitude for some 15 minutes.

July 21, Farmington, Mass. - 20 persons reported a silver-white UFO hovering over the area for almost 30 minutes. A Baltimore Md. radio station received numerous calls about a UFO at a very high altitude zig-zagging across the sky.

July 23, Ubeda, Spain - Two UFOs were reported by a Spanish news agency in southern Spain. No description available.

August 2, Justin and Ponder, Texas - Some residents in areas of northern Texas reported a UFO landed near Texas Highway #156 at night. However, investigation by authorities failed to turn up any evidence of a landing.

MANUSCRIPTS

We are desperately in need of good material and if you are having any trouble getting your manuscript published why not give us a try? UFOs, offbeat, fortan phenomena, etc will be welcomed. Preference will be given to those manuscripts dealing with new and previously unpublished aspects of the UFO enigma. We reserve the right to reject any manuscript, and to cut and edit as we see fit to make the meaning clearer. Your suggestions, criticisms, and letters are invited. Let's hear from you today, reader!

ANATOMY OF A PHENOMENON

by Jacques Vallee

Reviewed by N.J.A.A.P.'s Director

"Anatomy of a Phenomenon" is an unbiased scientific study of the UFO enigma not recommended for the scoffer or the fanatic. The author examines the modern and historical data which have contributed to the UFO enigma and discusses in detail the unsolved cases occurring between 1947 and 1964, a period of high activity which is susceptible to thorough research. Drawing upon collections of documents in Europe and upon the UFO files of the USAF, he presents the first complete analysis of these sightings by reliable witnesses which cannot readily be explained. He then examines the reactions and motivations of various groups - scientists, military men, "flying saucer" enthusiasts and cultists - with respect to UFOs. He also discusses critically present methods used to examine the phenomenon, and proposes a scientific system of classification. He concludes with a review of the more speculative theories advanced to explain UFOs: extraterrestrial visitations in ancient times and their possible relation to religious experiences, the interpretation of the Fatima miracle as a UFO phenomenon; the possibility of UFOs being spacecraft under intelligent control; and the many other hypotheses which were one left to writers of science fiction, but which are beginning to undergo serious scientific scrutiny.

Jacques Vallee, born and educated in France, holds degrees in mathematics and astronomy. He has done research in the fields of artificial satellites, microwave and radar technology, and computing science. He is a consultant on NASA's "Mars Map" project, and has been a research associate at MacDonald Observatory. The book can be purchased thru NJAAP's Associate Director, Tim Beckley, 3 Courtland St., New Brunswick, N.J. \$4.95.

'Flying Saucers' Reported in State

A guard at the Colorado State Penitentiary in Canon City and a La Junta housewife Monday gave their first-hand accounts of seeing flying saucers.

Both admitted they were among the "non-believers" before their jolting experience.

The sightings were among many new reports of unidentified flying objects seen in Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Wyoming and Texas during the past three days.

In a "preliminary conclusion," the Air Force in Washington, D.C., declared, "The people who thought they were seeing flying saucers probably were seeing stars."

Reject Explanation

Many persons, among them Prison Guard Don Stites of Canon City and Mrs. Henry Rawlings of La Junta, aren't ready to buy the Air Force explanation.

Stites maintained the sky was overcast at 2:15 a.m. Monday when he first sighted the glowing object hovering close to the ground an estimated 25 or 30 miles away, about halfway between Colorado Springs and Pueblo.

"I had just walked out of my guard tower to make my rounds on the catwalk," he recalled. "I saw a real bright object in the east. It wasn't very high. I was sort of stunned. It wasn't moving."

Stites said he at first thought to himself that the object was unusually large for a planet or a star but then he realized that the sky was 100 percent overcast and, therefore, it could not be a star or planet or an airplane.

"At first it was a bluish-white but then it changed to a slight red glow," he said. He said it was a concentrated glow without definite outlines, but that it appeared oval or oblong in shape.

Stites called two of his superior officers and three other guards. They all watched the object for about 10 minutes before it began to rise "very, very slowly—straight up," where it again paused in a stationary position for another 10 minutes.

"Then it faded away," said Stites.

Saw Something

Stites said although the other guards agreed they had seen "something," all right, he's satisfied that he's seen his first flying saucer.

Mrs. Rawlings said she was stooping over, cleaning carrots in her yard in north La Junta at about 9:15 a.m. Monday when her daughter, Melva Sheppard, 15, told her there was a funny looking thing up in the sky.

Mrs. Rawlings described the ob-

ject as being bright silver in color and saucer shaped, with a dome on the top and the bottom.

Six neighbor children playing across the street also saw it, she said.

The daughter watched for about five minutes and then went into the house to call a local radio station. As Mrs. Rawlings watched the object rotating slowly about 150 to 200 feet above the ground, it started to move in a horizontal flight, and then rose straight up and disappeared, she recalled.

"It's sort of a weird feeling," Mrs. Rawlings concluded.

A spokesman at the Wichita, Kan., weather bureau declared that unidentified flying objects of a type reported in that region showed up as blips on a radar screen.

Also adding to the list of reports, four persons working at Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne—including a navigation officer—reported seeing about 30 large cylinder-shaped objects about 5:30 a.m. Sunday.

Eerie Object Seen Over Antarctica

BUENOS AIRES, July 7. — (Reuters) — Argentines at two Antarctic bases have confirmed reports by British and Chilean scientists of the appearance four days ago of an unusual celestial body over the frozen subcontinent.

The object, observed and photographed by the Argentine Navy men last Saturday night, was shaped like a double-convex lens. It was colored mainly red and green, a Navy statement said.

The object made no noise, and moved generally eastward at changing speeds before disappearing.

An earlier report from a British Antarctic base said the object made geomagnetic instruments wild.

SEEN IN 8 STATES *San Diego Union* *Aug 2, 1965*

Air Force Doubts 'Object' Reports

WICHITA, Kan. (UPI) — Unidentified flying objects of a type reported over at least eight states showed up as blips early yesterday on a radar screen at the Wichita Weather Bureau.

The Air Force said that what hundreds of persons saw Sunday night and before dawn yesterday was the planet Jupiter or assorted stars. Ordinary radar does not pick up planes or stars.

METEORS CITED

The Air Force also said the temperature and winds from northern Texas to Wyoming were favorable to scintillation. This is a common natural phenomenon which causes stars to appear to twinkle or distant objects to appear to dance when viewed through layers of the atmosphere.

Some of the reported sightings also could have been observations of a meteor shower which occurs from July 26 to Aug. 6; the shower appearing from the southeast in long streaks trailing sparks.

Robert Risser, director of the Oklahoma Science and Art Foundation planetarium in Oklahoma City, said watchers in Oklahoma certainly did not see the planet or stars the Air Force listed.

SEEN BY OFFICERS

"That is as far from the truth as you can get," Risser said. "Somebody has made a mistake. These stars and planets are on the opposite side of the earth from Oklahoma City at this time of the year."

Four or five blips at a time were seen on Weather Bureau

radar at Wichita. Watchers, including many law enforcement officers, saw things that ranged in appearance from flashing lights of various colors to egg-shaped objects.

Reports of sightings by eye poured in from Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, South Dakota, Nebraska and Wyoming.

The Air Force, after a preliminary investigation, said the sightings reported probably were of the planet Jupiter or the stars Rigel, Capella, Betelgeuse or Aldebaran.

The reported sightings, the azimuth and elevations of the reported sightings support this conclusion," an Air Force spokesman said.

"There were no aircraft scrambled in an attempt to intercept any of the reported objects. Investigation is continuing."

OBJECT IN SKY MAY BE BALLOON

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — "It is definitely a balloon, and it is definitely a big balloon," the Air Force said today of a sky-riding object that had thousands of people in at least four states puzzled Monday night.

What's more, Maj. Hector Quintanilla of "Project Bluebook," the Air Force's investigative agency for unidentified flying objects, said he thinks he's found "the culprit."

Quintanilla said the balloon sighted in Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland was not the same type of balloon used by the Weather Bureau. He said that his office by a process of elimination has limited the origin of the balloon to the east coast, and it is probably the property of an Air Force station.

He declined to name the station, but said only "we think we've found the culprit."

The big balloon had moved from east to west. As thousands of people saw it telephone switch boards were overloaded at newspaper offices, police stations, air bases and other public offices, by people trying to find out what the object was.

U.F.O.'S SEEN OVER SO. AMERICA U.F.O. LANDS IN PERU

Lima, Peru, July 24 (Copley) - Reports have been coming in all week to government authorities and newspapers from people who say they have seen flying objects around Lima. People in Chile, Portugal, Argentina, Australia and Uruguay also have recently reported seeing UFOs. Because the Peruvian government hasn't investigated the reports, it has fallen to the newspapers to do most of the sleuthing. The best eyewitness account the press got came from a chemist and his wife. They said they saw a bright flashing object land on a hill near their ranch about 30 miles outside of Lima. They said it stayed on the ground for 45 minutes and then zoomed off. They rushed out to the spot where it landed and found signed plants, overturned rocks and a blacked area. A group of farmers supported the couple's report. UFO enthusiasts got an ally and the people got a bigger scare when a group of Peruvian scientists issued a statement saying that "flying saucers" did exist and that observatories had been on a 24-hour alert for a week trying to track them down. (New York Daily News, July 25.)

UFO'S SEEN IN FOUR STATES

Oklahoma City, Okla., Aug. 1 - Authorities in portions of Texas, N.M., Okla., and Kansas were deluged tonight with reports of UFOs. The Sedwick County sheriff's office at Wichita, Kan., said the Weather Bureau tracked "several of them at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 feet." The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said Tinker Air Force Base here was tracking as many as four of the UFOs on its radar screen at one time, estimating their altitude at about 22,000 feet. A Tinker spokesman refused to confirm or deny the radar observations. Reports of the UFOs poured in from Pecos, Monahans, Odessa, Midland, Fort Worth, Canyon and Dalhart, Tex., Hobbs, Carlsbad and Artesia, N.M., Chickasha, Shawnee, Cushing, Buymon and Chandler, Okla., and from Oxford, Belle Plaine, Winfield, Caldwell, Mulvane and Wichita, Kan. Police Officer Edward Roberts of Caldwell told radio station KFH at Wichita in a tape recorded interview that he and two other persons sighted one of the objects east of the Caldwell airport. In the interview, Roberts said "we stood on top of the car. You could see (the object) with the naked eye. It looked like it was on the ground or hovering just above the ground...it was red, greenish blue and yellowish white...about 100 yards long...egg shaped. I would estimate we were about five miles from it." The Okla. Highway Patrol said police officers in three different patrol cars reported watching the objects fly in a diamond-shaped formation for about 30 minutes in the Shawnee area. The patrol said the officers described the objects as changing in color from red to white to blue-green. A dispatcher for the Sedgwick County, Kansas, sheriff's office said "I was a disbeliever, but I saw something up there tonight and so did other observers at the Weather Bureau and the Air Force Base (McConnell)." At 3:40 am the Wichita Weather Bureau said it had tracked one of the objects south and west of Wellington. The Bureau said it first showed up on their radar at an altitude of about 22,000 feet and had descended to 4,000 ft. Descriptions telephoned to police and other authorities included: "They were red and exploded in a shower of sparks and at other times fluttered like a leaf" in the clear sky. Deputy Sheriff Dan Carter of Canyon, Texas, said he "thought at first a plane had exploded in the air." The object "appeared to go south," he said, "then disintegrated in all colors." (Los Angeles Herald News, August 2.)

A NEW LOOK AT CONTACT CLAIMS BY JEROME CLARK

"Dwarfs, giants and other oddities are 'in,'" wrote the late Waveney Girvan, "but Venusians are 'out'". In his capacity as editor of the English Flying Saucer Review, Girvan argued that a re-examination of the contact claims was long due - that, in fact, the contact claims represented the clue to the UFO mystery. Unfortunately, he tended to overstate his case, insisting that George Adamski and, for instance, Antonio Villas Boas¹ deserved to be considered on the same footing.

Exactly why Girvan should have maintained such a position I do not know, for Charles Bowen, who now edits the Review, has told me that his predecessor had become convinced that Adamski was a charlatan. At any rate, the issue is not too important, except that we note Girvan did not make the very necessary distinction, at least publicly, between the "professional" and the "amateur" claimant.

Adamski was a professional; he made his fortune repeating stories of conversations with Venusians and flights around the moon and to Saturn. His claims in themselves were definitely not impossible. After all, independent reports from individuals like the illiterate Brazilian peasant Olmiro da Costa e Rosa have confirmed the existence of UFO-nauts with "whit skin and Chinese eyes,"² as well as the reality of the cowbell-shaped flying saucer.

There is nothing in the internal structure of the story, except for the wildly ludicrous astronomical "facts" (which can be explained away if we assume that the Venusians were lying), to make us question Adamski's integrity. Rather, his behavior before and after his claim caused even his most loyal followers to wax apologetic. To the average UFOlogist, Adamski's motives were plainly, well, suspect. I had intended to write "mercenary," but this might be too simple an explanation, and it would be only partially accurate. Saucer News editor James Moseley, author of the famous "Adamski Expose," believes that Adamski's intentions were good; he was seriously concerned about human problems, and thought that he could help solve them by creating a kind of space-age religion, with golden-haired extraterrestrials substituted for angels. It is interesting to note that, as Ray Palmer has revealed, back in the early 1940's Adamski submitted a manuscript to a science-fiction magazine; this manuscript dealt with the landing of a spaceship, the pilot of which was Jesus Christ. About ten years later, Palmer says, he was shocked to come across essentially the same story from Adamski; only this time the author claimed it was true, and had gone to the trouble of changing Christ to the space-man Orthon.

Of course, there were other, even more serious objections which came to light. Jim Moseley managed to disprove the original, November 20, 1952, contact, and NICAP investigators found that a 1959 claim could not possibly have happened. I shall not discuss these in detail, for they are beside the point we are attempting to make, and further, they are almost irrelevant to the whole issue. The fact is that there was good reason to doubt Adamski's stories to begin with, and the later exposes served merely to confirm what any intelligent person should have been able to deduce for himself.

In other words, the Venusians were just a bit too convenient for comfort. Adamski already was known as a person bothered by humanity's failures, and so, not unnaturally, he made what he thought might be a sort of contribution to mankind. What he did might be considered reprehensible by many people (including myself), but Adamski did it, I imagine, with a relatively clean conscience, feeling that this was the only way he could get his message across. Viewed thus, it is not surprising that this particular contactee preferred to discuss "Cosmic Philosophy" rather than saucers.

One man's attempts along a line similar to Adamski's were so pathetically obvious that even many cultists were not convinced. This was the late William D. Pelley, leader of the notorious fascist "Silver Shirts" in the years shortly before the U.S.A. entered World War II. After Pelley's release from prison (for subversive activities) in the late 1940's, he became a medium and distributed tapes purportedly of the voices of

Thomas Jefferson, Henry Ford, and others. These eminent gentlemen, needless to say, completely echoed Peeley's peculiar political beliefs. One of Pelley's cohorts, by the way, was later to establish himself in the contact business: George Hunt Williamson.

What is true of Adamski and Pelley' is true of the other professional contactees, but in a much less "respectable" context. Most if not all of them appear to be exhibitionists (as witness the yearly antics at Giant Rock), and they make little effort to conceal their greed. It would be asking too much to assume that the UFOnuts should happen to pick individuals who are ready to exploit their alleged experiences in such a brazen manner. Experience gleaned from more "mundane" occupant accounts has shown that witnesses are often quite reticent, hesitating even to discuss what has happened to them, much less to use it in a money-making scheme.

In dismissing the contact claims in toto, UFOlogists fail to realize that George Adamski is not a typical claimant; he is merely the best known. Truman Bethurum, Daniel Fry, George Van Tassel, Orfeo Angelucci, and all the rest may be phonies, but their existence does not prove that contact has not taken place - a point that escapes so many critics.

I am not going to cite specific evidence for certain contact reports. This is being done quite well elsewhere, particularly in the pages of the Flying Saucer Review. While I may be over optimistic, I am under the impression that the possibility - perhaps even the probability - of contacts having occurred is undergoing a re-examination even in fairly conservative UFOlogical circles. There is no reason why it should not. After all, few investigators today doubt that UFOs have landed and their occupants debarked, however briefly - and there is, again, no reason why UFOnuts cannot have communicated in some manner with witnesses. Who disputes the word of Father William Booth Gill? Did not he (and a number of other observers) exchange hand signals with human-like beings standing in the lighted cockpit of a UFO? If one man had made contact thus, could not another do more - by voice, maybe?

Others have. The 1964-65 flap has produced two new cases of rather extensive communication between human and presumed extraterrestrial: those of Gary Wilcox (April 24, 1964) and Sid Padrick (January 30, 1965). Neither has tried to capitalize on his experience, and each has related his story in a simple, straight-forward manner. Wilcox especially suffered such persecution that he was forced to move from his farm, and his present whereabouts are unknown.

Wilcox's story is not of the "evangelical" type; the "Martians" (or so they identified themselves) are rather dull people - farmers, or botanists, one or the other. They ask about agricultural techniques. Wilcox is amused. He thinks this is a joke of some sort. But no - the "spacemen" tell him of "great changes in the universe." Our listener doesn't understand them; he really isn't too concerned, anyway.

Padrick meets beings of apparently normal appearance, and his claim contains certain "savior" overtones - but with a difference. His UFOnuts are evasive - Padrick feels they didn't tell him all they might have. He is frightened, and, like Wilcox, does not understand all that he is told.

The similarities are obvious, particularly in the attitudes of the witnesses, diverse though they appear to be at first glance. Lacking is the conceit so often noticeable in the professional's tale: Wilcox and Padrick are very normal men, of only average intelligence. Wilcox thinks his martians a little stupid in some ways, but in others admits they knew so much that he couldn't even remember it all. (Contrast this with the word-by-word "quotations" in Adamski's works.) Padrick suspects his own spacemen of trickery and gets uneasy in their presence. Compare:

....the spacemen radiated a feeling of warmth, well-being, peace and calmness. His voice was soft and melodious and his expression echoed his words...³

One purported incident, to which we alluded earlier, concerns a series of events that so embarrassed the witness that he did not want his name used in connection with them. The individual, whose wishes were honored for eight and a half years, was a Brazilian peasant who claimed to have been abducted by two humanoid beings and taken

into a landed flying saucer, where he was forced to have sexual intercourse with a female occupant. Antonio Villas Boas could not understand what had transpired, never having heard of UFOs. And, when outside the machine a UFO-naut drew a diagram of the solar system and pointed to one of the "planets," the amazed farmer was unable to comprehend that the being was attempting to tell him something about their supposed point of origin. Today, Villas Boas, now a married man, continues to live in the backwoods of his country, still puzzled, presumably; perhaps at the same time a bit disgusted with the morals of the ship's crew.

Waveney Girvan was rightfully indignant when he noted that little men were accepted, but their taller, more intelligent brethren rejected (and here we are ignoring the professionals' reports of same). Study, if you will, the reactions of the observers in both instances. You will find striking parallels: emotions of fear, amusement, annoyance, and disgust are mentioned frequently in each. One is forced to conclude that both accurately reflect the probable thoughts of persons faced with something real but unknown.

In summary, then, I should say that, when examining a reported contact, we ought to consider the claimant's personality and behavior very closely. Is he a flamboyant, attention-seeking individual, reach to preach and/or capitalize at the slightest opportunity? Or is he someone who is puzzled by what has happened to him, careful in his statements and actions? Is he conceited, or humble? Is he moved, or irritated? In other words, is he lying -- or telling the truth?

Notes

1. See Gordon Creighton's "The Most Amazing Case of All: Part 1," Flying Saucer Review, January-February 1965.
2. Creighton, "The Most Amazing Case: Part 2," March-April.
3. These are not the particular words of any one contactee, but a composite of the general tone which is used by professionals in describing such a circumstance as the one with which we are concerned here. Peter F. Sharp, B.Sc., who suggests them, observes, "The investigator will be used to ascertaining whether the witness is giving objective or subjective judgments about speed, height, etc., but does he note what colored words the witness uses? By colored words I mean those likely to carry emotional overtones." (See Sharp's excellent "The Truth: Some Suggestions for the Investigator," Flying Saucer Review, November-December, 1963.)

RADAR SPOTS, LOSES U.F.O.

A policeman at Wynnewood, in South Central Oklahoma, reported sighting a UFO early Saturday, July 31, 1965. The policeman, Lewis Sikes, said he first saw the object at 1:30 a.m. He said it appeared to emit a red, blue and white light. He said it appeared to hover in one spot and he observed it for about 45 minutes before reporting it to the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City was advised of the sighting and located the object on radar at about 8,000 feet. After checking with other government installations, Tinker officials said no air traffic was authorized to be in the area. Carswell Air Force Base at Fort Worth, Texas, also located the object on radar and both Tinker and Carswell tracked the object to a point 15 miles southwest of Tinker at which time it disappeared from both radar scopes. It was picked up again a few minutes later and tracked to a location 29 miles south of Tinker where it again disappeared. It was not relocated. Officials at Tinker said they had no information as to the nature or origin of the object. (Birmingham, Ala. News, Aug. 1.)